

Give Kids The World Village[®] Case Statement

Our Mission

Give Kids The World Village is a 79-acre, nonprofit resort dedicated exclusively to hosting children with life-threatening illnesses and their families. Located minutes from Orlando's world-famous attractions, it is a whimsical Village where no family pays, every child is special and hope grows like wildflowers.

Each year 27,000 children in the United States are diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. Research shows more than half of those involved with "wish-granting organizations" choose, as their wish, to visit Central Florida's theme parks and other attractions. As their host, we are passionate about providing the perfect guest experience for each child and family we serve.

At the Village, wish children and their families are treated to weeklong, cost-free vacations complete with accommodations in fully-furnished villas. The Village and its community partners provide transportation, tickets to theme parks, meals, daily entertainment and much more.

Our goal, quite simply, is to provide everything these deserving families need to make their trip the vacation of a lifetime. Since 1986, more than 140,000 children and families have had their dreams fulfilled in a storybook Village unlike any other place on earth.

Delivering on the Promise of Excellence

At the Village, children's dreams come true, as they and their families are immersed in joy, laughter and non-stop fun for a week of unforgettably happy days. For many guests, a trip to our Village is the only family vacation they've ever taken.

The resort sits on 79 acres within 15 miles of Orlando's theme parks and a short drive to the Space Coast and nearby beaches. The property has 144 fully-furnished, two-bedroom, two-bath villas.



Inspired by children's stories, each 1,400 square-foot unit is designed with bright colors and fun features. Some include castle towers, others look like windmills. Inside, newly renovated interiors are warm and welcoming with all the amenities of home.

Each villa is wheelchair accessible and stocked with welcome gifts for arriving families. We work every day to meet the unique needs of every family, whether that means providing special medical equipment or customizing meals for specific dietary needs.

Families often tell us that their time at Give Kids The World Village is a much-needed escape. For one week, they can set aside doctor appointments, hospital visits and medical tests. For one week, they play, relax and enjoy the company of other families just like theirs.

On arrival, each wish child receives a gold star to personalize and place inside our Castle of Miracles, an iconic Village venue. That star remains there forever, a glittering reminder of their once-in-a-lifetime experience. Guests may return and see their star anytime they like – and many do. In 2014, we welcomed more than 1,800 returning families.

Families staying at the Village receive free meals and as much ice cream as they want from our Ice Cream Palace. They splash in wheelchair-accessible pools and giggle on our rides.

They enjoy nightly entertainment – such as our Winter Wonderland Parade – laugh on our rides and play on our dinosaur-themed miniature golf course.

Most families use a complementary rental vehicle to get around, but for those who don't, Give Kids The World arranges transportation at no charge.

Many families tell us how long it's been since they last heard their child's laughter; others have never heard their child sing until he or she performs in our weekly "Village Idol" talent show. Some ride a horse for the very first time.

The joy created in the Village lasts long after a family returns home. Here's how one wish parent put it recently:

"I can't thank you enough for the week we spent at your Village. This was our first family vacation, our first week away from doctors, therapies, medical bills, and stress. The Village felt like home. My daughter would say each day, 'Are we are going home to the yellow house?' My children were able to experience so much fun and so much love at your Village, they will never forget it. Thank you for including the siblings, as they are the most forgotten in this journey. You made them feel special too, and for that I'm so thankful. The volunteers were so helpful and so happy. It really was like being a part of a family."



Role of Philanthropy and Volunteers

We could not serve our wish families without the help and caring spirit of others. Give Kids The World Village has almost 20,000 volunteer “Angels” who fill almost 2,000 shifts each week. Like our guests, volunteers come from every state in the country and around the globe.

We also receive tremendous support from generous corporate partners who provide or help fund everything from food services to property management to theme-park tickets.

While that assistance greatly reduces our expenses, Give Kids The World Village must raise funds each year to cover the cost of other programs and services. For example:

- Transportation
- Village events
- Village beautification projects and maintenance
- Character costumes
- Village infrastructure

We scrutinize the use of every dollar we receive. Give Kids The World Village has repeatedly been recognized as a top-performing, Four-Star Charity by Charity Navigator, with more than 93 cents of every dollar we spend going directly to programs for the children and families we serve.

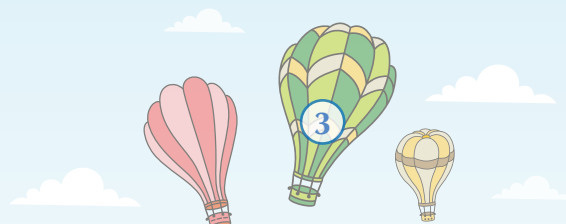
The Future

Since its founding in 1986, Give Kids The World has never turned away a child who wanted to visit Central Florida, thanks to continuous support from generous donors we never will.

That said, there are times when our villas are filled to capacity and some families stay – at no cost – at nearby resorts. Those families participate in all Village activities, but they miss the immersive experience of being on property with other families.

To expand our capacity, the Board of Directors recently approved a plan to add 24 new villas on the northern end of our property. Called “Banyan Park,” the project is expected to be under construction by the fall of 2015.

Phase One of the project will feature the Village’s first three-story buildings and our first three-bedroom villas. Ultimately, we envision adding two additional townhouses, bringing the total cost of all three phases to nearly \$13 million.



How You Can Help

Please consider a gift to the Banyan Park project to help assure that each of our wish families can stay in a place unlike any other on earth.

Banyan Park Campaign – Gift Options

Basketball Court/Scenic Features	\$100,000
Inside Scenic Area with Balloon Feature	\$75,000
Landscape Grounds	\$50,000
Furnish a Villa (includes whirlpool tub)	\$40,000
Fund a Villa	\$150,000
Operations Facilities	\$75,000
Professional Fees – Architecture & Design	\$100,000

In a very real sense, Give Kids The World Village offers families the gift of time. Time away from the burdens of everyday life and time to rediscover the joy of simply being together. I hope you will join us in our mission as we continue to create the happiness that inspires hope.

For additional information or to discuss your gifts to this project, please contact Pam Landwirth at 407-396-5325.

